

Washington, WAC 173-201A. These practices will be adhered to during all phases of design and construction, and maintained thereafter. A Stormwater Site Plan covering both temporary and permanent BMPs will be developed for each NSF project phase. The site plan will cover the requirements of the NPDES.

### **Mitigation**

~~No mitigation is proposed.~~

There are no anadromous fish in the Spokane River. Resident species will be protected by utilizing best management practices and timing of work in the water in accordance with a Hydraulic Project Approval administered by Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## **Social/Economic Impacts**

### ***Farmland***

#### **Studies and Coordination**

Information for this report came from the Spokane County Soils Survey and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (SCS) Important Farmlands of Spokane County Map; the city of Spokane and Spokane County planning and zoning maps; and by land use survey. Coordination was conducted with SCS to comply with the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) (see **Table 4-24**).

The SCS has determined that the FPPA applies to this project. The FPPA requires that each corridor under study be evaluated to determine impacts and the resultant conversion of identified farmlands. An impact rating has been determined for each corridor, using Form AD 1006. If the corridor receives a total rating of less than 160 points, it is given a minimal level of consideration for protection and no additional sites will be evaluated. If the corridor receives more than 160 points, it will receive higher levels of consideration for protection, and additional alternatives must be evaluated. These are the guidelines and criteria for assessing impact ratings under 7 CFR Part 658.4 and 658.5.

#### **Affected Environment**

##### ***Prime Farmland***

Prime farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, oilseed, and other agricultural crops with minimum input of fuel, fertilizer, pesticides, and labor, and without intolerable soil erosion, as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture. Prime farmland includes land that possesses the above characteristics but is being currently used to produce livestock or timber. It does not include land already in or committed to urban development or water storage.

See **Figure 4-23** for prime farmland located in and along each alternative route.

### *Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance*

Farmland of statewide or local importance is farmland other than prime or unique that is of statewide or local importance for production of food, feed, fiber, forage, or oilseed crops, as determined by appropriate state or local government agency or agencies and the Secretary of Agriculture. See **Figures 4-23** for Farmland of Statewide Importance.

### **Impacts**

(For discussion of construction activity impacts, see the Construction Activity Impacts section of this EIS.)

#### *Highway Runoff*

Highway runoff resulting from the project is not expected to impact the productivity of adjacent farmland.

#### *Changes in Land Use*

No designated farmland within the city of Spokane's jurisdiction would be impacted by project-induced growth. Such growth may occur northeast of the city; however, Spokane County policy requires that growth and development follow the County Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinances. While there are parcels presently being farmed, these areas are designated for urban, suburban, and semi-rural use. Thus, if such farmland is taken out of active production, it would be consistent with county plans.

On the other hand, some subdivision of agricultural lands into acreage parcels consistent with county zoning is taking place on the metropolitan fringe. Although these areas are not intended for residential use, families seeking a country lifestyle with the ability to keep livestock are building homes on these parcels. Increased accessibility could make these parcels more desirable.

#### *No-Build Alternative*

This alternative would not impact the availability of productive designated farmland.

#### *Market/Greene Alternative (Preferred Alternative)*

There would be a narrow strip of prime farmland acquired north of Lincoln Road. This option would traverse a .24 kilometer (.15 mile) strip of land (approximately .72 hectare [1.8 acres]). Spokane County's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Maps designate this area for industrial use.

**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING  
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS**

<b>PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request		4. Sheet 1 of 1	
1. Name of Project Spokane North-South Freeway		5. Federal Agency Involved Federal Highway Administration			
2. Type of Project New Freeway Construction		6. County and State Spokane, Washington			
<b>PART II (To be completed by SCS)</b>		1. Date Request Received By SCS 8-17-94		2. Person Completing Form Steven B. Campbell SCS	
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form):		YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		4. Acres Irrigated   Average Farm Size 14,911   243 acres	
5. Major Crops wheat, barley, lentils, grass seed		6. Farmable Land In Government Jurisdiction Acres: 673,570 % 59		7. Amount Of Farmland As Defined In FPPA Acres: 614,572 % 54	
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used LESA		9. Name Of Local Site Assessment System		10. Date Land Evaluation Received By SCS 8-22-94	

<b>PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>	<b>Alternative Corridor For Segment</b>			
	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	884	874	785	775
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services				
C. Total Acres In Corridor	884	874	785	775

<b>PART IV (To be completed by SCS) Land Evaluation Information</b>	North Market	North Havana	South Market	South Havana
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	3.6	3.9	5.2	5.5
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland		7.1		7.1
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted	0.0006	0.0018	0.0008	0.002
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value	70	74	70	74

<b>PART V (To be completed by SCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)</b>	50	40	50	40
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<b>PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))</b>	Maximum Points				
1. Area In Nonurban Use	15	1.0	1.0	3.0	2.0
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20	0.0	1.0	2.0	1.0
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	0.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
5. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
8. On-Farm Investments	20	0.0	1.0	2.0	1.0
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0.0	1.0	2.0	1.0
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
<b>TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS</b>	160	37.0	61.0	66.0	62.0

<b>PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>					
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100	50.0	40.0	50.0	40.0
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	37.0	61.0	66.0	62.0
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)</b>	260	87.0	101.0	116.0	102.0

1. Corridor Selected: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; text-align: center;">N/A</div>	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; text-align: center;">~ 13</div>	3. Date Of Selection: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; text-align: center;">N/A</div>	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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5. Reason For Selection:  

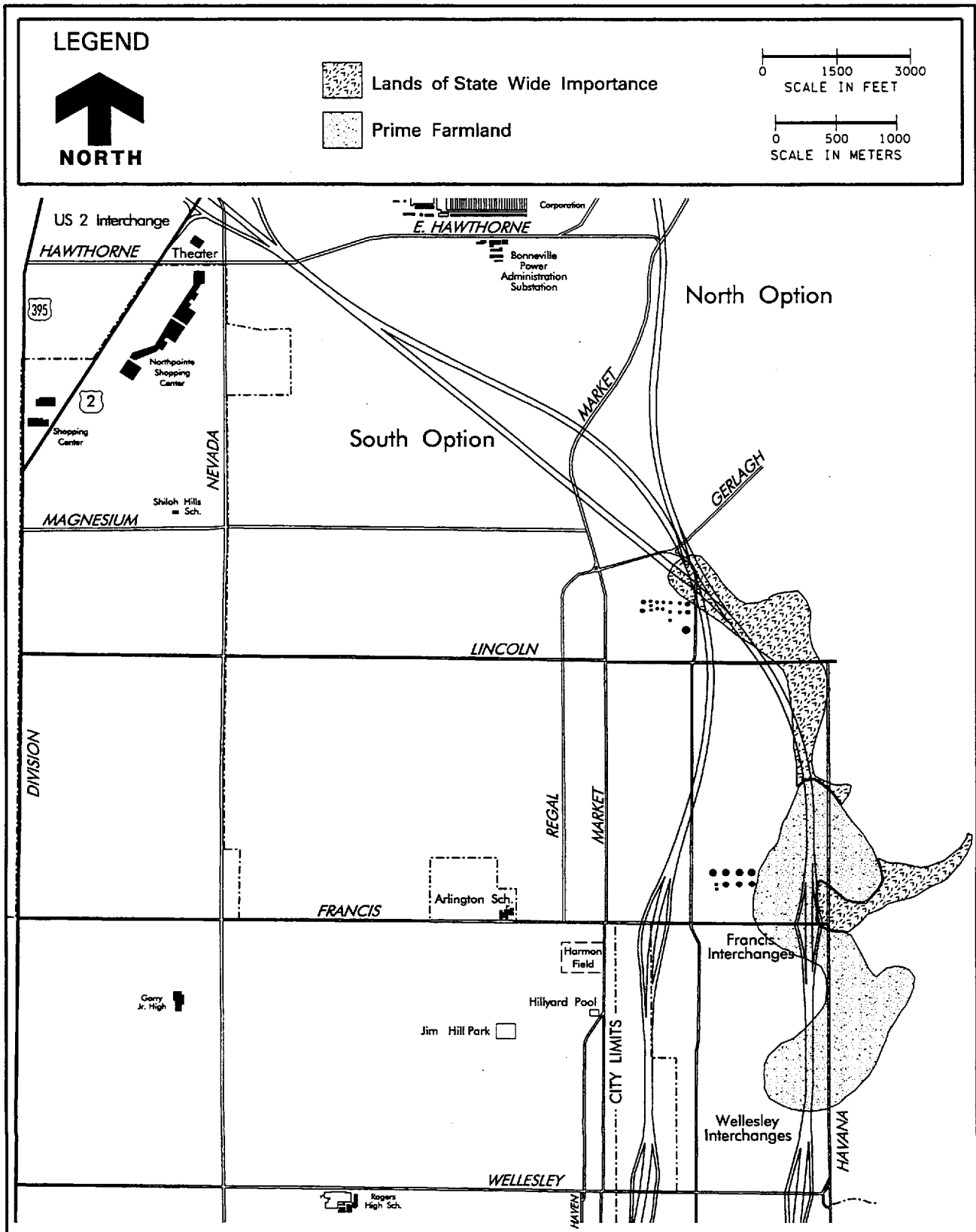
In compliance w/ FPPA ∴ no significant impact to farmland.  
Corridor will be selected after DEIS is approved.

Signature of Person Completing This Part: Paco Leon DATE 9/6/94

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternative Corridor.

**Farmland Conversion Impact Rating for Corridor Type Projects**  
Table 4-24



**Market/Greene (Preferred Alternative) and Havana Alternative  
Prime & Unique Farmland  
Figure 4-23**

### *North Option (Preferred Alternative)*

A small strip of land designated prime farmland near the juncture of the Market/Greene and Havana routes would be acquired. This option crosses a .24 kilometer (.15 mile) strip of land (approximately 0.72 hectare [1.8 acres]). Spokane County's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Maps designate these areas for residential and industrial uses.

### *South Option*

A small strip of land designated as prime farmland near the juncture of the Market/Greene and Havana routes would be acquired. This option crosses a .46 kilometer (.28 mile) strip of land (approximately 1.36 hectares [3.4 acres]). Spokane County's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Maps designate these areas for residential, industrial, and commercial uses.

### *Havana Alternative*

This route traverses three farmland areas of (approximately 3.68 hectares [9.2 acres]) that are designated as prime farmland and land of statewide importance between Wellesley and north of Francis Avenues.

The first section of the route crosses approximately .52 kilometer (.33 mile) of land (approximately 1.56 hectares [3.9 acres]) designated as land of statewide importance north of Wellesley Avenue. The second section traverses approximately .27 kilometer (.17 mile) of land (approximately .84 hectares [2.1 acres]) designated as prime farmland just north of Francis Avenue. The last section crosses approximately .43 kilometer (.27 mile) of land (approximately 1.28 hectares [3.2 acres]) designated as land of statewide importance north of Francis Avenue. Because these areas are designated for urban and semi-rural residential uses, the impact of land acquired from them is not substantial.

### *I-90 Collector/Distributor (C/D) System (part of the Preferred Alternative)*

There would be no impacts to prime farmlands or farmlands of statewide importance. The impact ratings determined by applying the evaluation guidelines of the FPPA are below the 160 point threshold (see **Table 4-24**). Based on the ratings obtained, the United States Department of Agriculture recommends that a minimal level of consideration for protection be given to the farmlands within the proposed right of way, with no requirement for additional site evaluation.

### **Mitigation**

Any topsoil removed from areas of prime farmland and farmland of statewide importance will be scraped and stockpiled rather than covered over. The topsoil can then be used for erosion control and in areas of planting for BMPs.